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Latin America Review

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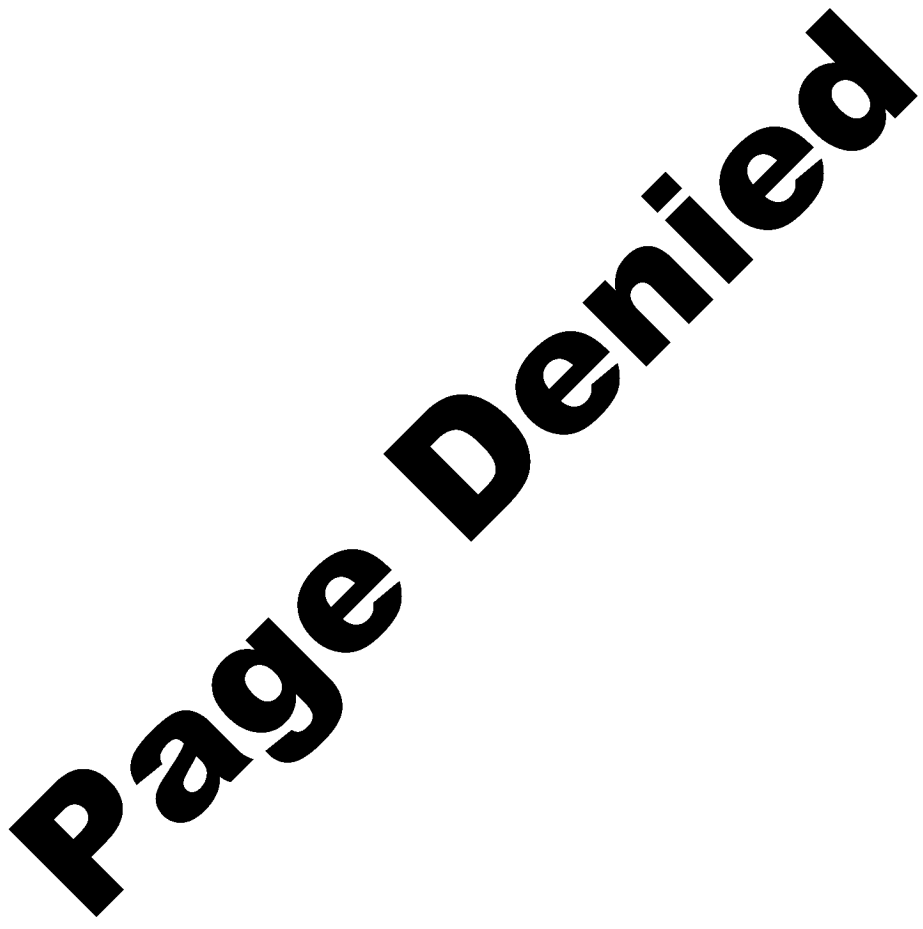

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3.3(b)(1) Bolivia: Despite repeated disavowals by Argentine leaders of complicity in last month's coup in Bolivia, [redacted] since last spring members of Argentina's military mission in La Paz have been deeply involved. [redacted] 3.5(c)

[redacted] some members of the 30-man mission encouraged the takeover and even participated in the planning. [redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

3.5(c) [redacted] the mission support was being directed by Argentine Army Chief of Staff Vaquero. [redacted]

There also are indications that once the coup plans were set, the Argentine Government may have had second thoughts about its involvement. Strong pressure from the United States in May and June could have led Buenos Aires to instruct its Ambassador and military attaches in La Paz not to intervene in Bolivian affairs. From that point until the coup was actually carried out, however, Argentine intervention probably was not essential.

3.5(c) [redacted]

Argentine officers are reportedly again acting as advisers to members of the new Garcia Meza regime and are participating in the "interrogation" of some 2,000 political prisoners. They also are supplying food and weapons to the Bolivian military. [redacted] 3.5(c)

Argentine recognition of the military regime on 28 July apparently was prompted by concern that the regime would collapse without international support. The withdrawal of US economic and military assistance reportedly has led the Bolivians to turn to Argentina for financial aid. The ruling military is said to have asked Buenos Aires for a $200 million loan to meet Bolivia's most pressing economic needs. [redacted] 3.5(c)

3.5(c) [redacted]

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